

B.) AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0023] on pages 6-7 with the following rewritten and amended paragraph:

[0023] Figure 2 illustrates a partial sectional view of the compressor 108 of a preferred embodiment of the present invention. The compressor 108 includes an impeller 202 for compressing the refrigerant vapor. The compressed vapor then passes through a diffuser 119. The diffuser 119 is preferably a vaneless radial diffuser having a variable geometry. The variable geometry diffuser (VGD) 119 has a diffuser space 204 formed between a diffuser plate 206 and a nozzle base plate 208 for the passage of the refrigerant vapor. The nozzle base plate 208 is configured for use with a diffuser ring 210. The diffuser ring 210 is used to control the velocity of refrigerant vapor that passes through the diffuser space or passage ~~[[202]]~~204. The diffuser ring 210 can be extended into the diffuser passage ~~[[202]]~~204 to increase the velocity of the vapor flowing through the passage and can be retracted from the diffuser passage ~~[[202]]~~204 to decrease the velocity of the vapor flowing through the passage. The diffuser ring 210 can be extended and retracted using an adjustment mechanism 212 driven by an electric motor to provide the variable geometry of the diffuser 119. A more detailed description of the operation and components of one type of variable geometry diffuser 119 is provided in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/313,364, filed on December 6, 2002, which patent application is hereby incorporated by reference. However, it is to be understood that any suitable VGD 119 can be used with the present invention.